

03500.015692

PATENT APPLICATION

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|                               |   |                            |
|-------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| In re Application of:         | ) |                            |
|                               | : | Examiner: Robert B. Beatty |
| Kazushige SAKURAI, et al.     | ) |                            |
|                               | : | Group Art Unit: 2852       |
| Application No.: 09/933,827   | ) |                            |
|                               | : | RCE Filed: June 18, 2003   |
| Filed: August 22, 2001        | ) | Confirmation No. 7275      |
|                               | : | Not. of All. 3/18/03       |
| For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS, | ) | June 18, 2003              |
| CARTRIDGE, IMAGE FORMING      | : |                            |
| SYSTEM AND STORAGE MEDIUM     | ) |                            |

**MAIL STOP RCE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to further examination on the merits, Applicants respectfully request that the above-identified application be further amended as follows: